

#### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A tape cassette of this invention is equipped with a memory capable of accommodating at least management information including identification information unique to each tape cassette. A magnetic tape housed in the tape cassette is written with identification information that is supposed to be the same in content as the memory-stored identification information. When the tape cassette is loaded into a tape drive system, the system acquires both the memory-stored identification information and the tape-stored identification information to determine a match therebetween. A mismatch between the two sets of identification information, if detected, is interpreted to mean that the tape cassette has been tampered with, and read and write operations on the cassette are restricted accordingly. This enhances security against fraudulent uses of the tape drive system.